

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S.S.N.10/674,245

Mantese, et al.

**METAL ALLOYS FORMING PASSIVATING
CONDUCTIVE OXIDES FOR DURABLE
ELECTRICAL CONTACT SURFACES**

September 29, 2003

Art Unit: 1742

Examiner: Ip, Sikyin

Attorney Docket: DP-309451

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

July 24, 2006
DateKandace Brown
Kandace Brown

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is Applicants' response to the Office Action mailed June 22, 2006, requiring an election of species in the above-identified application.

Applicants hereby elect the species of claim 8 without traverse. Claims 1-8, 10-12, and 14-15 are believed to read on this species (with respect to claims 11 and 12, note the ionic radii and valence states shown for the components of the elected species in Table I at page 8 of the application). Further, Applicants note that this election of species becomes binding only in the event that no generic claim is found to be allowable.

Respectfully submitted,


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